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Agenda item 7

NOTIFICATION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL UNDER ARTICLE 12, PARAGRAPH 2, OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations and with the consent of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to notify the General Assembly of matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security that are being dealt with by the Security Council and of matters with which the Council has ceased to deal.

2. The matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security that have been discussed during the period since the notification to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly (A/50/442 and Add.1) are as follows:

1. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. 1/
2. The situation concerning Western Sahara.
3. The fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. 2/
4. The situation in Croatia.
5. The situation in the former Yugoslavia.
6. The situation in Angola.
7. The situation concerning Rwanda.
8. The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border.
9. The situation in Liberia.

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10. The question concerning Haiti.

11. The situation in Sierra Leone.

12. The situation in the Middle East.

13. The situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

14. The situation in Cyprus.

15. An agenda for peace: preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping.

16. An agenda for peace: peacekeeping.

17. The situation in Burundi.

18. The situation in Georgia.

19. The situation in Somalia.

20. Letter dated 9 January 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council concerning the extradition of the suspects wanted in the assassination attempt on the life of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 26 June 1995 (S/1996/10).

21. The situation in Afghanistan.

22. Shooting down of two civil aircraft on 24 February 1996.

23. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia.

    International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States.

    Appointment of the Prosecutor.

24. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

25. Signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba).

26. The situation in the occupied Arab territories.

27. Letters dated 20 and 23 December 1991 from France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

28. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia.

29. Demining in the context of United Nations peacekeeping.

30. Letters dated 23 September and 3 and 11 October 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1996/774, S/1996/824 and S/1996/847).

Letters dated 23 September 1996 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council and 27 September 1996 addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1996/768 and S/1996/800).

3. During the same period, as part of the efforts to improve the documentation of the Security Council, the members of the Council again reviewed the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized and the stage reached in their consideration, which is contained in the summary statement by the Secretary-General established pursuant to rule 11 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure (S/1996/15, para. 13, and Add.4, 8, 14, 18 and 32). In a note issued on 30 July 1996 (S/1996/603), 3/ the President of the Security Council stated that the Council had decided that, as of 15 September 1996, matters which had not been considered by the Council in the preceding five years would be deleted from the list of matters of which the Council is seized.

4. In a note issued on 29 August 1996 (S/1996/704), the President of the Security Council stated that, with reference to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the note by the President of the Security Council of 30 July 1996, the Council had decided that no item would be deleted from the list of matters of which the Council is seized without the prior consent of the Member States concerned in accordance with the following procedure: (a) the annual summary statement issued in January of each year by the Secretary-General on matters of which the Council is seized will identify the items to be deleted from the list in the absence of any notification by a Member State by the end of February of the year in question; (b) if a State Member of the United Nations notifies the Secretary-General that it wishes an item to remain on the list, that item will be retained; (c) the notification will remain in effect for one year and can be renewed annually. The Security Council also decided that notifications received by 15 September 1996 in accordance with paragraph 3 of document S/1996/603 would remain in effect until the issuance of the Secretary-General's annual summary statement of January 1998.

5. Pursuant to the decisions of the Security Council referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above and in the absence of receipt of notifications to the contrary by 15 September 1996, the following items relative to the maintenance of international peace and security have been deleted from the list of matters of which the Council is seized (the item numbers correspond to those contained in document S/1996/603, annex):

Item 1 Special agreements under Article 43 of the Charter and the organization of the armed forces to be made available to the Security Council.

Item 11 Complaint by Kuwait in respect of the situation arising from the threat by Iraq to the territorial independence of Kuwait, which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security. Complaint by the Government of the Republic of Iraq in respect of the situation arising out of the armed threat by the United Kingdom to the independence and security of Iraq, which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security.

Item 13 Letter dated 6 September 1964 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Item 24 The situation in the Comoros.

Item 28 Complaint by the Prime Minister of Mauritius, current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, of the "act of aggression" by Israel against the Republic of Uganda.

Item 30 Complaint by Benin.

Item 37 Letter dated 21 May 1984 from the representatives of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Item 38 Letter dated 3 October 1984 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Item 41 Letter dated 25 March 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Letter dated 25 March 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Letter dated 26 March 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Item 42 Letter dated 12 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

Item 46 Letter dated 17 December 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Letter dated 17 December 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.

Item 50 United Nations peacekeeping operations.

6. During the period since the notification to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly (A/50/442 and Add.1), the Security Council has not discussed at a formal meeting the following matters relative to the maintenance of international peace and security of which it remains seized:

1. The Palestine question.

2. The India-Pakistan question (S/628).

3. The Hyderabad question (S/986).

4. Letter dated 20 February 1958 from the representative of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General (S/3963).

5. Letter dated 11 July 1960 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/4378).

6. Letter dated 31 December 1960 from the Minister for External Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/4605).

7. Letter dated 5 September 1964 from the Permanent Representative of Greece addressed to the President of the Security Council and letter dated 8 September 1964 from the Permanent Representative of Greece addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/5934 and S/5941).

8. The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent (S/10411).

9. Letter dated 3 December 1971 from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/10409).

10. Complaint by Cuba (S/10993).

11. Complaint by Iraq concerning incidents on its frontier with Iran (S/11216).

12. The situation in Timor (S/11899).

13. The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question.

14. Request by the Libyan Arab Republic and Pakistan for consideration of the serious situation arising from recent developments in the occupied Arab territories (S/12017).

15. The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights.

16. Complaint by Greece against Turkey (S/12167).

17. The situation between Iran and Iraq.

18. Complaint by Iraq (S/14509).

19. Letter dated 19 February 1983 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15615).

20. Letter dated 8 August 1983 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15914).

21. Letter dated 1 September 1983 from the Acting Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15947)

Letter dated 1 September 1983 from the Permanent Observer for the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15948)

Letter dated 1 September 1983 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15949)

Letter dated 1 September 1983 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15950)

Letter dated 2 September 1983 from the Acting Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/15951).

22. Letter dated 22 March 1984 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/16431).

23. Letter dated 1 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17509).

24. Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17787).

25. Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17991)

Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17992)

Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17993)

Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17994).

26. Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the Permanent Observer of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/19488)

Letter dated 10 February 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/19489).

27. Letter dated 19 April 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/19798).

28. Letter dated 4 January 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/20364)

Letter dated 4 January 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/20367).

29. Central America: efforts towards peace.

30. Letter dated 2 February 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/21120).

31. The situation in Cambodia.

32. Letter dated 2 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22435)

Letter dated 4 April 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22442).

33. Letter dated 17 May 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/22609)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (S/22627 and Add.1).

34. Letter dated 19 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23052)

Letter dated 19 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23053)

Letter dated 20 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23057)

Letter dated 24 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23069).

35. Letter dated 24 November 1991 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23239)

Letter dated 21 November 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23232)

Letter dated 26 November 1991 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23247).

36. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 721 (1991) (S/23280).

37. Oral report of the Secretary-General pursuant to his report of 5 January 1992.

38. Further reports of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 721 (1991) (S/23363 and Add.1; S/23513; S/23592 and Add.1).

39. Letter dated 20 January 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Somalia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23445).

40. (a) The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

(b) Letter dated 2 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22435)

Letter dated 4 April 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22442)

Letter dated 5 March 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23685).

41. Further report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) (S/23671 and Add.1; S/24145 and Corr.1; S/24556; S/24858 and Add.1).

42. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 743 (1992) (S/23777).

43. Letter dated 23 April 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23833)

Letter dated 24 April 1992 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23838).

44. The situation relating to Nagorny Karabakh.

45. Further report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 749 (1992) (S/23900).

46. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 752 (1992) (S/24000)

Letter dated 26 May 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23997)

Letter dated 27 May 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24024).

47. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 757 (1992) (S/24075 and Add.1).

48. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 15 of Security Council resolution 757 (1992) and paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 758 (1992) (S/24100 and Corr.1).

49. Oral reports by the Secretary-General on 26 and 29 June 1992 pursuant to Security Council resolution 758 (1992) (S/24201).

50. Further report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 752 (1992) (S/24188).

51. Further report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolutions 757 (1992), 758 (1992) and 761 (1992) (S/24263 and Add.1).

52. Letter dated 11 July 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24264)

Letter dated 12 July 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24265)

Letter dated 13 July 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24266)

Letter dated 13 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24270)

Letter dated 17 July 1992 from the Permanent Representatives of Belgium, France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24305).

53. Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/24333).

54. Letter dated 4 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24376)

Letter dated 4 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24377).

55. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 762 (1992) (S/24353 and Add.1).

56. Letter dated 7 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24393)

Letter dated 7 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24394)

Letter dated 7 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24395)

Letter dated 7 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24396).

57. Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24401)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24409)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24410)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24412)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24413)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24415)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24416)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24419)

Letter dated 12 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24423)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24431)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24433)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the Comoros to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24439)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24440).

58. Letter dated 28 August 1992 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

59. Letter dated 24 August 1992 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24509).

60. Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/24540).

61. Draft resolution contained in document S/24570.

62. Further report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolutions 743 (1992) and 762 (1992) (S/26400).

63. Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24401)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24409)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24410)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24412)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24413)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24415)

Letter dated 10 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24416)

Letter dated 11 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24419)

Letter dated 12 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24423)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24431)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24433)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the Comoros to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24439)

Letter dated 13 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24440)

Letter dated 5 October 1992 from the Permanent Representatives of Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24620).

64. Oral report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II).

65. The situation in Mozambique.

66. Letter dated 27 October 1992 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.

67. Letter dated 29 October 1992 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24736).

68. The situation in Tajikistan.

69. (a) The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

(b) Letter dated 2 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22435)

Letter dated 4 April 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/22442)

Letter dated 5 March 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/23685 and Add.1)

Letter dated 3 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24386)

Letter dated 19 November 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24828).

70. Report of the Secretary-General on the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (S/24923).

71. Letter dated 18 December 1992 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/24996).

72. The situation prevailing in and adjacent to the United Nations Protected Areas in Croatia.

73. Further report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 743 (1992) (S/25264 and Corr.1).

74. Establishment of an international tribunal for the prosecution of persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

75. Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 807 (1992) (S/25470 and Add.1).

76. Participation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the work of the Economic and Social Council.

77. Letter dated 12 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/25405)

Letter dated 19 March 1993 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/25445)

Note by the Secretary-General (S/25556).

78. Applications made under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations as a consequence of the implementation of measures imposed against the former Yugoslavia.

79. Follow-up to resolution 817 (1993).

80. United Nations Protection Force.

81. Complaint by Ukraine regarding the Decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation concerning Sevastopol.

82. Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) missions in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

83. Security of United Nations operations.

84. Navigation on the Danube river in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

85. Note by the Secretary-General (S/1994/254)

Note by the Secretary-General (S/1994/522).

86. Agreement signed on 4 April 1994 between the Governments of Chad and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning the practical modalities for the implementation of the Judgment delivered by the International Court of Justice on 3 February 1994.

87. Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a letter dated 27 May 1994 from the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) addressed to the Secretary-General (S/1994/631).

88. The situation in the Republic of Yemen.

89. Agreed framework of 21 October 1994 between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

90. The situation prevailing in and around the safe area of Bihac.

91. Letter dated 14 December 1994 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 724 (1991) concerning Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1994/1418).

92. An agenda for peace.

93. The proposal by China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on security assurances.

94. Navigation on the Danube river.

Notes

1/ Prior to the 3647th meeting, held on 4 April 1996, this item had been formulated as "The situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina".

2/ The Council concluded its consideration of this item on 26 September 1995.

3/ Subsequently reissued on 22 August 1996 under the same symbol.

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Fifty-first session
Agenda item 112

REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Accountability, management improvement and oversight in the United Nations system

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Accountability, management improvement and oversight in the United Nations system" (A/50/503 and Add.1).

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ANNEX

Comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Accountability, management improvement and oversight in the United Nations system"

I. GENERAL COMMENTS

1. The report seeks to address a wide range of activities falling under the umbrella of accountability and oversight within the United Nations system. This extensive "baseline survey" (see A/50/503, para. 8) shows evidence of substantial research effort, including a exhaustive bibliography, and provides a comprehensive comparative assessment of various accountability, management improvement and oversight mechanisms in use within the United Nations system. The reference value of the comparative tables in part two (A/50/503/Add.1) is particularly significant. A number of organizations were pleased to note positive references recognizing their accomplishments.

2. Members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination were of the view that the inclusion of a detailed analysis of empirical cases of effective implementation of the approaches advocated in the report, would have made the report more practical to follow up.

3. Many of the proposed ideas for modernizing the internal management practices of the organizations of the United Nations system, such as management development and training, career development programmes, encouragement of staff creativity aimed at improved organizational performance, etc., were certainly valid. In this connection, members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination shared the thrust of the report and stressed that most of its suggestions and recommendations had either already been implemented or closely correlated with the course of decentralizing, restructuring and streamlining initiatives pursued by the organizations and agencies of the system.

II. COMMENTS ON RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

4. Members of ACC were of the view that, while the intrinsic value of strategic planning, performance management and accountability was beyond doubt, the need to have all three functions combined in one organizational unit was not self-evident. Those related functions should be coordinated and exercised in an integrated way, but each organization needed to determine the particular structure and arrangements for those functions in its specific functional and financial circumstances. Members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination noted that the stress of the "single focal point unit" for this diverse range of functions was, to some extent, in contradiction with other statements and observations in the report, in which it was recognized that organizations must find their own way of advancing reforms (see, for example, A/50/503, paras. 6, 54 and 143).

5. While some organizations had chosen to establish central offices for strategic planning and accountability, others found it more effective, in their specific circumstances, to rely on advisory panels of senior management in strategic policy review, assisted by specialized task forces and working groups, which oversee the implementation of reform tasks in specific functional and technical areas. Each of those control and coordination centres was supported, within existing resources, by a staff complement with relevant expertise. In general, it appeared that while the centralized approach proved its merit in more specialized, less diversified organizations, the decentralized one was more suitable for multidisciplinary organizations, especially in a situation of diminishing resources.

Recommendations 2 to 5

6. The Administrative Committee on Coordination supported the general thrust of recommendations 2 to 5 and noted that they had been already incorporated, in various shapes and forms, in their reform strategies. Implementation of the envisaged measures along these lines had yielded significant positive results.

7. In regard to the question of the "visibility" of the work of internal audit services, raised in the report, it was noted that it should be taken duly into account within the framework of the mechanisms for implementing the recommendations of internal audits.

8. Concerning the standards of conduct in the international civil service, it was emphasized that, in order to avoid a situation where each organization and agency draws up its own standards, the International Civil Service Commission should be responsible for drafting the Standards, after consulting all concerned.

Recommendations 6 and 7

9. The Administrative Committee on Coordination will continue to support the efforts of inter-agency bodies to enhance accountability, management and oversight system wide.

Recommendation 8

10. The Administrative Committee on Coordination noted that this recommendation was addressed to governing bodies.

Recommendation 9

11. The Administrative Committee on Coordination was of the opinion that the specific modality of such reporting should be left to each organization to decide according to the requirements of their governing bodies.

II. SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Internal audit (A/50/503, paras. 18-30)

12. In its analysis of the internal audit activities throughout the system, the report noted the growing emphasis on the management audit approach and urged that it should become more pronounced. While members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination fully concur with the importance of expanding the horizons of the internal audit units to include a more intense management audit approach, they would like to emphasize that this has to be achieved not at the expense of financial and compliance aspects. Financial and attest auditing, along with compliance auditing, should remain the essential part of the internal audit programmes of work.

External auditors (A/50/503, paras. 208-210)

13. The delineation between the United Nations Board of Auditors and external auditors of other organizations and agencies is somewhat artificial and may be misleading in conveying the impression that the Board of Auditors is something other than external auditors.

Internal evaluation in the United Nations Environment Programme (A/50/503/Add.1, table 3)

14. It should be noted that in UNEP, the Follow-up and Evaluation Section (FUES) has been transformed into the Project Design and Evaluation Unit, which is part of the newly established Corporate Planning and Accountability Service.

Governing bodies, UNESCO (A/50/503/Add.1, table 12)

15. It should be noted that since 1993, the membership of the UNESCO Executive Board has comprised States, and no longer prominent individuals serving in their personal capacity. Since November 1995, the Board has comprised 58 members, not 51 as indicated in the table. The Finance and Administration Commission of the Executive Board has also established a group of experts on financial and administrative questions.

16. Concerning the preparation of reports submitted to the oversight governing bodies, reference should be made to the in-depth study of ways and means of improving the quality of working documents of the General Conference and the Executive Board of UNESCO conducted by the special committee of the Executive Board.

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FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT, AND REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS

Accounting standards

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-eighth session, the General Assembly considered a report of the Secretary-General on the development of common accounting standards for the United Nations (A/48/530), submitted in response to General Assembly decision 47/449 of 22 December 1992. The report summarized the inter-organization work done on common accounting standards under the auspices of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ(FB). The report set out plans for further action and briefly described issues relating to the standards as they then stood.

2. The objectives of the accounting standards are to provide a framework for accounting and financial reporting in the United Nations system which reflects generally accepted accounting principles while taking account of the specific characteristics and needs of the system; and to promote consistent accounting and financial reporting practice among the organizations.

3. In its resolution 48/216 C of 23 December 1993, the General Assembly took note of the United Nations system accounting standards contained in the annex to the report, and requested the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations organizations and programmes to take those standards into account in the preparation of their financial statements for the period ending 31 December 1993.

4. The General Assembly also took note of the plans of the organizations for the application and development of the United Nations system accounting standards, as reflected in paragraphs 9 and 11 of the report, and requested the

Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), at its fifty-first session. The present report is in response to that request.

II. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE STANDARDS IN 1994 AND 1995

5. While the standards were expected to affect the substance and contents of organizations' financial reports and statements, it was recognized that the application of the standards would not necessarily lead to greater comparability in the general presentation of these documents. CCAQ(FB) regarded such comparability as an important complement to the standards, and agreed that the aim of achieving it should be pursued as a matter of priority. The Committee assigned this task to a Working Party on Financial Statements, which was open to participation by accounting specialists from all organizations.

6. The Working Party held three meetings in 1994 and 1995. Its purpose was to develop agreed formats for financial statements, and to make consequent changes to the provisions of the standards to cover their use. In these tasks, the Working Party had the assistance of the Technical Group of the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, which provided comments as the work progressed and participated in joint discussions.

7. The final draft revised accounting standards prepared through this process were approved by CCAQ(FB) at its second session in 1995. The formats are designed not only to ensure that similar accounts are treated in the same way in different organizations, but also to facilitate comparison between the financial statements of different organizations and to bring out the full range of an organization's activities. The Panel, which participated in the session, indicated through its representatives that in its opinion the amended text, including the format of statements, represented a sound set of accounting standards for the United Nations system.

III. APPLICATION OF THE COMMON STANDARDS

8. Organizations made significant efforts to take the revised standards into account in the preparation of their financial statements for financial periods ending in 1995. Organizations have reported some problems with the application of the standards. There are a few areas in which further clarification of the standards is needed, particularly with regard to the harmonization of presentation using the agreed formats, and further work is necessary on the cash flow statement in order to enhance its utility. In some cases the organizations' financial regulations and rules have not yet been brought into line with the standards. Discussion of these issues with External Auditors is ongoing in a number of organizations.

9. The standards have always been regarded as a "living document", subject to review, extension and amendment in the light of needs and circumstances. CCAQ(FB) has already identified several subjects (e.g. currency transactions and treatment of voluntary contributions in kind) that call for further study at a

later stage, while the Panel, on its side, has indicated that it would assist in clarifying some of these subjects.

IV. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

10. The reactions of governing bodies to the introduction of new formats for financial statements and reports will be of importance in evaluating the formats. A number of governing bodies have not had an opportunity to express any opinion but reactions from those governing bodies that have had the opportunity are positive. CCAQ(FB) plans to begin the next stage of development work on the standards as soon as all governing bodies have examined the latest statements.

11. The arrangements made in the past to constitute working parties to carry out development work have been particularly successful and CCAQ(FB) intends to continue with this course of action for the future development of the standards. As the General Assembly has previously been informed, the process of full adaptation to the common standards is likely to extend over several years. Changes in financial practices, procedures and systems will have to be made in a number of instances; in addition, in several organizations governing bodies will need to consider changes in financial policies and/or the amendment of financial regulations.

V. CONCLUSION

12. The Secretary-General believes that the revised common accounting standards set out in the annex represent a positive response to the requests formulated by the General Assembly on this subject and an important advance for the United Nations system. He also welcomes the constructive contributions of the Panel of External Auditors.

13. The General Assembly is invited to take note of the common standards and of the organizations' plans for their application and their future development.

ANNEX

United Nations System Accounting Standards

Revision 1

UNITED NATIONS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

Preface

The common inter-organization accounting standards set out in this document have been approved by the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) in response to a request by the United Nations General Assembly, in its decision 46/445 of 20 December 1991, that the Secretary-General should "propose a set of accounting standards for common application to the United Nations system". The standards have been developed by accounting specialists of organizations of the system under the auspices of the ACC Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ), in consultation with the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, for presentation to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

The primary objective of the standards is to provide a framework for accounting and financial reporting in the United Nations system which reflects generally accepted accounting principles, while taking account of the specific characteristics and needs of the system. A further objective is to promote consistent accounting and financial reporting practice between the organizations.

Underlying these objectives are needs for Governments and other contributors to the organizations to have the means to judge the manner in which resources made available by them are used, and for the management of each organization to demonstrate that it has fulfilled its responsibility for stewardship and accountability in respect of such resources.

Accounting and financial reporting in accordance with the standards should among other things assist those concerned:

(i) To ensure consistent and transparent treatment and disclosure of financial transactions;

(ii) To assess the financial position and its evolution over time;

(iii) To ascertain the sources from which income has been derived and the ways in which it has been used;

(iv) To judge financial performance under approved budgets.

It is the intention of ACC that the standards should be applied throughout the system. In conjunction with organizations' financial regulations and relevant decisions of their legislative authorities, the standards should form the basis for the accounting policies of each organization, and thereby guide its accounting practice in all matters of material significance.

Given the wide range of mandates of the organizations, their structures and methods of operation are very diverse. Their individual legislative authorities have ultimate responsibility for deciding on the orientation and conduct of their work and the related financial arrangements. In these circumstances the

regulations, rules and decisions adopted may in some cases involve variations from common approaches as exemplified in the standards. ACC has included a provision in the standards specifying that attention will be drawn to any such variations in the financial statements of the organizations concerned.

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

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IIA. Format for the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Changes in Reserves and Fund Balances (Statement I) - Option A

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IIIB. Format for the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Reserves and Fund Balances (Statement II) - Option B

IV. Statement of Cash Flow (Statement III)

V. Statement/Schedule of Appropriations (Statement IV or Schedule 1.1)

Foreword

1. The accounting standards agreed for application in organizations of the United Nations system are based to a large extent on relevant International Accounting Standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Committee, to which appreciation is expressed for its permission to draw upon its texts, as listed in appendix I. Where differences from the International Accounting Standards exist, it is mainly because of the essentially non-commercial nature of the organizations' activities. A further important factor is the central place of approved budgets in the organizations' operations, which makes it necessary to focus on accounting for income and expenditure in the framework of those budgets.

2. By their nature, the standards have to be open to modification, development and refinement as accounting principles evolve and new needs emerge in the system itself. They will accordingly continue to be reviewed on a periodic basis through the same procedures as those through which they have been established.

3. Where individual organizations find it necessary to depart from the practice set out in the standards they should disclose the reasons for doing so in the statement of significant accounting policies included in their financial statements.

General framework

4. Going concern, consistency and accrual are fundamental accounting assumptions, which are described below as they apply in the United Nations system. Where fundamental accounting assumptions are followed in financial statements, disclosure of such assumptions is not required. If these fundamental accounting assumptions are not followed, that fact should be disclosed together with the reasons.

(i) Going concern - The organization is normally viewed as a going concern, that is, as continuing in operation for the foreseeable future. It is assumed that the organization has neither the intention nor the necessity of liquidation or of curtailing materially the scale of its operations;

(ii) Consistency - It is assumed that accounting policies are consistent from one financial period to another;

(iii) Accrual - The accrual basis of accounting for revenue in each financial period means that income is recognized when it is due and not when it is received. Accrual of expenditure in each financial period means that costs are recognized when obligations arise or liabilities are incurred and not when payments are made.

5. Prudence, substance over form and materiality, as described below, should govern the selection and application of accounting policies:

(i) Prudence - Uncertainties inevitably surround many transactions. This should be recognized by exercising prudence in preparing financial statements. Prudence does not, however, justify the creation of secret or hidden reserves;

(ii) Substance over form - Transactions and other events should be accounted for and presented in accordance with their substance and financial reality and not merely with their legal form;

(iii) Materiality - Financial statements should disclose all items which are material enough to affect evaluations or decisions and all material information which is necessary to make the statements clear and understandable.

6. Where an organization has activities which are of a commercial nature, it may be appropriate to apply international accounting standards (e.g. IAS 18, on income recognition), in which case that should be specified.

Financial statements

7. The objective of financial statements is to provide information about the financial position and performance of the organization, changes in its financial position, and compliance with legislative and other authorities. Notes to the financial statements are an integral part thereof and should be grouped together in one place. A complete set of financial statements 1/ subject to audit should in all cases include: a statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances (Statement I), a statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances (Statement II), a statement of cash flow (Statement III), Note 1 to the financial statements comprising a statement of the organization's objectives, and Note 2 to the financial statements comprising a statement of significant accounting policies. For organizations with assessed budgets, the audited financial statements should also include a statement or schedule of appropriations (Statement IV or Schedule 1.1) and a detailed schedule of assessed contributions outstanding for the regular budget. Individual organizations might wish to present additional information in the financial statements or schedules or in information annexes, but should maintain the principle that information subject to audit should be presented in statements or schedules, while information not subject to audit should be presented in annexes.

8. The complete set of financial statements referred to in paragraph 7 above should be presented in the formats shown in:

(i) Appendix II 2/ (statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances - Statement I);

(ii) Appendix III (statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances - Statement II);

(iii) Appendix IV (statement of cash flow - Statement III);

(iv) Appendix V (statement or schedule of appropriations - Statement IV or Schedule 1.1).

9. Where organizations feel it inappropriate to present combined data, Statements I and II should be presented in the columnar format shown in appendices IIA and IIIA. Where combined data are presented, organizations should use the format in appendices IIB and IIIB. These columnar formats are designed to distinguish the different types of funds which are managed by the organization. In presenting data in the columns, organizations should show clearly which funds are at the disposal of the member States of the organization

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1/ The term "financial statements" should hereafter be taken to mean all financial statements and schedules which are subject to audit.

2/ Excluding the first two columns on the left of the appendix which refer to the relevant paragraph in these standards (column 1); and to the further explanations attached to the formats (column 2).

(e.g. regular budget, working capital funds etc.), and which are not (e.g. funds received from donors to finance projects).

10. Further guidance on the use and degree of disclosure of each of the line items in these statements/schedules is given in the explanations attached to each format (see also para. 24 below).

11. Financial statements should have the qualitative characteristics required to make the information provided useful to readers. The four principal qualitative characteristics are understandability, relevance, reliability (accuracy, neutrality and completeness), and comparability over time. Compliance with the principal qualitative characteristics and appropriate accounting standards normally results in financial statements that convey what is generally understood as a true and fair view of, or as presenting fairly, the financial position of the organization at the end of the financial period, the results of its operations for that period, and changes in its financial position. In the interests of comparability, line descriptions in the financial statements and in annexes thereto, which have not already been defined, should preferably use the terms contained in the CCAQ glossary of financial and budgetary terms.

12. Financial statements may be presented in thousands or millions of the currency of account, whichever is appropriate.

13. Financial statements should include as Note 1 a statement of the organization's objectives.

14. Financial statements should include clear and concise disclosure of all significant accounting policies which have been used.

15. The disclosure of the significant accounting policies used is an integral part of the financial statements. The policies should be disclosed in Note 2 to the financial statements, with cross-references as necessary to individual statements.

16. Wrong or inappropriate treatment of items in the financial statements is not rectified either by disclosure of accounting policies used or by notes or explanatory material.

17. Unusual items or prior period items should be disclosed if they have a material effect on the financial statements or schedules. Such items should be either:

(i) Reported by adjusting opening balances in the financial statements for the current period and amending the comparative information in respect of prior years which is included in the financial statements; or

(ii) Separately disclosed in the current financial statements.

In either case the disclosure relating to these items should be adequate to facilitate comparisons of the figures for the periods presented.

18. A change in accounting policy should be made only if the adoption of a different accounting policy is required by resolution of the competent legislative authority or by the present accounting standards (endorsed as necessary by legislative authority), or if it is considered that the changes would result in a more appropriate presentation of the financial statements .

19. If there is a change in accounting policy that has a material effect in the current period, or may have a material effect in subsequent periods, the effect of the changes should be disclosed and quantified, together with the reason for the changes.

20. A change in an accounting estimate should be accounted for as part of income or expenditure relating to the ordinary activities of the organization in:

(i) The period of change if the change affects that period only; or

(ii) The period of change and future periods if the change affects both.

Revision of an estimate that relates to an item that was treated as an unusual item should itself be reported as unusual.

21. Contingent gains or losses, or events occurring after the end of the financial period, should be disclosed in the financial statements if they are considered to be of such importance that non-disclosure would affect the ability of users of the financial statements to make proper evaluations and decisions. If disclosure is necessary, the following information should be provided:

(i) The nature of the contingency or event and factors that may affect any future outcome;

(ii) An estimate of the financial effect, or a statement that such an estimate cannot be made.

22. For organizations with assessed budgets, the statement or schedule of appropriations (Statement IV or Schedule 1.1) should relate actual expenditure to budgeted expenditure for the period. At the summary level, the statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances (Statement I), the statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances (Statement II), and the statement of cash flow (Statement III) should show corresponding figures for the preceding period. 3/

23. The name of the organization, the date of the end of the financial period, and the period covered by financial statements and the currency in terms of which they are expressed, should be stated.

3/ Exceptionally, for the first financial period in which the formats are used, the presentation of corresponding figures for the preceding period is not obligatory.

24. The amounts and classifications of items should be supplemented by any additional information required to make their meanings clear. Significant items should not be included with, or offset against, other items, without separate identification (see also the further explanations attached to the formats in appendices II to V, for guidance on disclosure).

25. All income and expenditure of the organization, whatever the source of funds, should be reported. The extent of combination, whatever the source of funds, should be reported. The extent of combination of income and expenditure in respect of different sources of funds (regular budget, extrabudgetary and any other resources) is a matter of judgement and depends on the extent to which it is meaningful and useful (see also para. 9 above).

Currency questions

26. The accounts of the organizations are maintained, and their financial statements are presented, in the currency or currencies best suited to their operations. Where a transaction occurs in a currency other than the currency of account, it should be recorded in the organization's accounts and reflected in its financial statements in the currency of account.

27. A transaction in a currency other than the organization's currency of account should be recorded in the currency of account by applying (i) the United Nations operational rate of exchange, (ii) the budget rate of exchange or other rate of exchange approved by the legislative authority of the organization, or (iii) the actual rate of exchange yielded at the time of the transaction. The United Nations operational rate of exchange should be the benchmark rate of exchange for the determination of exchange gains and losses.

28. Where organizations enter into forward exchange contracts or other financial instruments for hedging against currency fluctuations, they should disclose in their financial statements the value of outstanding contracts, together with the basis used for measuring and reporting the transactions.

29. Differences on exchange and income or expense relating to forward exchange contracts or other financial instruments should be cleared into income or expenditure or into an authorized reserve account in the financial period in which they arise.

30. In the statement of assets, liabilities and reserves and fund balances (Statement II), for the purpose of reporting items denominated in currencies other than the currency of account:

(i) Monetary items (that is, money held and assets and liabilities and reserves and fund balances to be received or paid in fixed or determinable amounts of money) should be reported using the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect at the reporting date. Where changes in market rates of exchange are such that the use of this rate would cause a material discrepancy in the valuation of such items, the operational rate of exchange for the subsequent month (reflecting the market rate at the end of the financial period) may be used, subject to disclosure;

(ii) Non-monetary items which are carried in terms of historical cost should be reported using the United Nations operational rate of exchange at the date of the transaction;

(iii) Non-monetary items which are carried at fair value should be reported using the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect at the reporting date in determining their value.

Income and expenditure

(a) Income

31. Income for a financial period is defined in the United Nations system as money or money equivalent received or accrued during the financial period which increases existing net assets. The following are the main types of income received by the organizations:

(i) Contributions assessed under regular budgets, or special accounts;

(ii) Voluntary contributions pledged in cash, or in kind;

(iii) Voluntary contributions received to fund specific activities under trust fund and other arrangements;

(iv) Other/miscellaneous income.

32. Income from assessed contributions represents a legal obligation of contributors as from the date when it becomes due payable. Such income should accordingly be recognized as at that date. However, in the interests of prudent financial management, provision may be made as appropriate for delays in the collection of the income so recognized and disclosed in accordance with the formats of the financial statements.

33. Voluntary contributions formally pledged represent a good-faith commitment of the contributor for the period and/or programme to which they relate. Such income should accordingly be recognized in that period. However, in the interests of prudent financial management, provision may be made as appropriate where the collection of the income so recognized is considered doubtful. In specific cases, where the pledge is deemed uncollectible, write-off action will be required. Alternatively, the income may be recognized only when funds are received.

34. Voluntary contributions in kind, if the particular nature of the organization's operations so requires, should be recorded in the books of account. Where circumstances so warrant, contributions in kind should be disclosed in a note to the financial statements. Such contributions should be valued at the donor's valuation, fair market value or budgeted value, whichever the organization considers to be most appropriate. The basis of valuation should be disclosed. The recording of voluntary contributions in kind as income and expenditure should take place simultaneously.

35. Voluntary contributions received to fund specific activities represent monies received in advance for the execution of those activities and held in trust. Such contributions are accordingly recorded only when received.

36. Other/miscellaneous income is defined in the United Nations system as income other than (i) the value of assessed or voluntary contributions and (ii) such other income items as may be excluded under the organization's financial regulations and rules. Other/miscellaneous income includes, inter alia, those items shown under that title in appendix II (statement of

income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances - Statement I). Other/miscellaneous income should be recorded on an accrual basis.

(b) Expenditure

37. Expenditure for a financial period is the sum of the disbursements and valid unliquidated obligations made against the appropriation/allocation of the period. The main types of expenditure incurred by the organizations are (i) expenditure under assessed regular or special budgets, which is governed by organizations' financial regulations, and (ii) expenditure under voluntary contributions, which may be governed either by the organizations' financial regulations or by separate rules established in accordance with those regulations.

38. Obligations are amounts of orders placed, contracts awarded, services received and other transactions which involve a charge against the resources of the current financial period and which will require payment during the same or a future period. Obligations under assessed regular or special budgets are maintained for the period specified in the organizations' financial regulations. Obligations charged to voluntary contributions may be maintained either for that period or until liquidated or cancelled.

39. Obligations may be increased during the financial period to which they relate according to the same rules as those applying to their establishment. During their period of validity they should be reduced as soon as they come to represent a decreased charge against the resources of the organization, and cancelled as soon as they no longer represent such a charge; in these cases the accounts should be adjusted in accordance with the organization's financial regulations and rules.

40. Obligations unliquidated at the end of a financial period which continue to represent a charge against the resources of the organization should be maintained if the relevant regulations or rules so permit, and shown as a liability in the accounts. Any other remaining unliquidated obligations should be cancelled. Where obligations remain a valid charge but are required to be cancelled because of time limits under the relevant regulations or rules, corresponding new obligations should be established against the resources of the current financial period.

41. Where commitments are incurred against future financial periods, they should be recorded in the organization's accounts or disclosed in a note to the financial statements. Disbursements against such commitments should be recorded as deferred expenditure.

42. The costs of non-expendable equipment, furniture and motor vehicles should be charged to expenditure on purchase.

43. Losses represent other items that meet the definition of expenses and may, or may not, arise in the course of the ordinary activities of the organization. Losses, which include, for example, losses or thefts of cash, stores or other assets, are not different in nature from other expenses.

44. Transfers to reserve accounts should be fully disclosed.

Assets, liabilities and reserves and fund balances

45. Assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances are the elements directly related to the measurement of organizations' financial position. They are defined as follows:

(i) An asset is a resource owned by or due to the organization as a result of past events;

(ii) A liability is a present obligation of the organization arising from past events, the settlement of which is expected to result in an outflow of resources from the organization;

(iii) Reserves and fund balances represent the difference between the assets and liabilities of the organization.

46. The amount at which an asset or liability is stated in the financial statements should not be reduced by the deduction of another liability or asset unless a legal right of set-off exists and the offsetting represents the expectation as to the realization of the asset or settlement of the liability.

47. The statement of assets, liabilities and reserves and fund balances (Statement II) presents the financial position of the organization at a given moment in time. Information to be disclosed in the statement is set out in the following paragraphs.

(a) Assets

48. Assets to be disclosed include, among others, the items mentioned below. They should be listed in descending order of liquidity and any restrictions on title should be indicated:

(i) Cash and term deposits, including cash on hand, current and call accounts and term deposits with banks. Separate disclosure should be made of any amounts held in non-convertible currencies;

(ii) Investments. The market value should be disclosed if it is different from the carrying amount in the financial statements;

(iii) Accounts receivable, including contributions receivable from member States, inter-fund balances receivable, and debit balances and advances under other accounts (excluding those shown under other assets). There should be disclosure in the statement of assets and liabilities, or in supporting schedules, of current contributions outstanding, arrears of contributions and contributions payable in instalments, with detailed listings by member States;

(iv) Other assets, including, inter alia, inventories (other than non-expendable equipment, furniture and motor vehicles), and deferred charges;

(v) Land and buildings. The value of such property should be disclosed, and the method of valuation (cost, valuation or nominal) should be clearly stated.

49. The inventory value of non-expendable equipment, furniture and motor vehicles should be disclosed and the method of valuation (cost or valuation) should be clearly stated in a note to the financial statements.

50. The costs incurred during construction or major long-term acquisitions which extend over more than one financial period should be accumulated and disclosed in a separate account. The sources of financing of the operation should be disclosed separately. On completion, the construction or acquisition should be brought to account at final cost, and any remaining liability for the financing thereof should be separately shown.

51. Separate disclosure should be made of the amounts and timing of commitments for acquisition of land or buildings.

(b) Liabilities

52. Liabilities to be disclosed include, among others, the items mentioned below. They should be listed in the order of increasingly distant due dates, and any security given in respect of them should be disclosed.

(i) Contributions or payments received in advance;

(ii) Borrowings payable within one year;

(iii) Unliquidated obligations;

(iv) Accounts payable, including inter-fund balances payable and other accounts payable;

(v) Other funds and special accounts;

(vi) Other liabilities;

(vii) Borrowings payable after one year.

53. Separate disclosure should be made of any secured or unsecured borrowings, and a summary of the interest rates and repayment terms should be provided.

(c) Reserves and fund balances

54. Reserves and fund balances include, among others, the following items:

(i) Operating reserves;

(ii) Other reserves;

(iii) Balances relating to projects funded by donors;

(iv) Working capital funds;

(v) Capital funds relating to land and buildings;

(vi) Surpluses and deficits.

55. The nature of each capital fund and reserve account, the authority for establishing it, its authorized level, its source of funding, and movements in its constituent funds should be separately disclosed.

56. The value of any accumulated surplus or deficit should be separately disclosed. Surpluses under assessed regular budgets should be disclosed in such a manner as to enable users of the organization's financial statements to ascertain the amounts actually available for distribution under the provisions of its financial regulations which relate to the surrender of such surpluses.

57. Liabilities for end-of-service benefits (and post-retirement benefits) should be provided for in the accounts to the extent required by the financial policies of the organization. Insofar as such liabilities are not fully provided for, appropriate disclosure should be made in the notes to the financial statements and the total estimated liabilities quantified where possible.

APPENDIX I

Accounting Standards of the International Accounting Standards Committee drawn upon in developing the United Nations system accounting standards

Framework	for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements
IAS 1	Disclosure of Accounting Policies
IAS 5	Information to be Disclosed in Financial Statements
IAS 7	Statement of Changes in Financial Position
IAS 8	Unusual and Prior Period Items and Changes in Accounting Policies
IAS 10	Contingencies and Events Occurring after the Balance Sheet Date
IAS 13	Presentation of Current Assets and Current Liabilities
IAS 16	Accounting for Property, Plant and Equipment
IAS 17	Accounting for Leases
IAS 18	Revenue Recognition
IAS 21	Accounting for the Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates
IAS 27	Consolidated Financial Statements and Accounting for Investments in Subsidiaries
E 44	The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates (Exposure Draft)

APPENDIX IIA (Option A)

Statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances (Statement I)

for the period ending [date]

(Expressed in [currency of account])

References		Heading	Schedule or Note Reference[1]	General Fund (and related funds)		Other Activities					
						1		2		3 etc.	
				[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]	
Accounting Standards	Comments and further disclosure[1]			[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]
31(i), 32 31(ii) (iii) 33-35 31(iv), 36	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	INCOME Assessed contributions Voluntary contributions Other/Miscellaneous income Revenue producing activities Funds received under inter-organization arrangements Allocations from other funds Jointly financed activities Income for services rendered Interest income Currency exchange adjustments Other/Miscellaneous									
		TOTAL INCOME									
37-40, 42-44	10	**EXPENDITURE** Expenditure									
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE									
		EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE									
	11 12	Prior period adjustments Provision for delays in the collection of contributions									
		NET EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE									
	13 14 14 15	Savings on prior periods' obligations Transfers to reserves Transfers from reserves Transfers to/from other funds Credits to member States Other adjustments to reserves and fund balances Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period									
		RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES, END OF PERIOD									

[1] Comments and information on further disclosure in the table following appendix IIB (Option B).

[2] This column is optional when the references cannot pertain to all columns shown.

APPENDIX IIB (Option B)

Statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances (Statement I)

for the period ending [date]

(Expressed in [currency of account])

References		Heading	Schedule or Note Reference[1]	General Fund (and related funds)	Other Activities			Eliminations	Total	
					1	2	3 etc.		[Financial Period]	
Accounting Standards	Comments and further disclosure[1]								[Current]	[Prior]
31(i), 32 31(ii),(iii) 33-35 31(iv),36	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	**INCOME:** Assessed contributions Voluntary contributions Other/Miscellaneous income Revenue producing activities Funds received under inter-organization arrangements Allocations from other funds Jointly financed activities Income for services rendered Interest income Currency exchange adjustments Other/Miscellaneous								
		TOTAL INCOME								
37-40, 42-44	10	**EXPENDITURE** Expenditure								
		TOTAL EXPENDITURE								
		EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE								
	11 12	Prior period adjustments Provision for delays in the collection of contributions								
		NET EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE								
	13 14 15	Savings on or cancellation of prior periods' obligations Transfers to reserves Transfers from reserves Transfers to/from other funds Credits to member States Other adjustments to reserves and fund balances Reserves and fund balances, beginning of period								
		RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES, END OF PERIOD								

[1] Comments and information on further disclosure in the table following appendix IIB (Option B).

[2] This column is optional when the references cannot pertain to all columns shown.

Statement of income and expenditure and changes in reserves and fund balances (Statement I)

Comments and further disclosure

Number	Comments	Disclosure by schedule or note or on the financial statements	
		Obligatory	Optional
General	In accordance with paragraph 5(iii) of the Accounting Standards, all items which are material enough to affect evaluations or decisions should be disclosed in footnotes.		
1/2	Contributions may be broken down by main components to meet Organization's reporting requirements (e.g. Government/non-Government, cash/in kind, pledged/voluntary contributions)		For regular budgets, disclose income from member States (together with contributions outstanding - see obligatory disclosure for contributions receivable). For voluntary contributions, disclose amounts brought to account (together with expenditure where appropriate).
3	Other income items may be shown separately or grouped under the major heading "other/miscellaneous" as prescribed by the basic texts or resolutions, or depending on materiality.		Where such income is shown only in total, disclose breakdown by component.
4	Shown on gross basis unless otherwise indicated.	Where exceptionally shown on net basis, disclose gross income and related costs.	
5	Funds received from UNDP/UNFPA etc. to meet expenditure.		
6	Income received from other funds managed by the organization.		
7	Cost-sharing contributions to meet expenditure provided for on a gross basis in the appropriation (otherwise such items should be handled through the receivable accounts).		
8	Project servicing costs, management fees, etc.		
9			Disclose nature of adjustment.
10	Show total expenditure or high level breakdowns (such as programme/administrative, disbursements/unliquidated obligations) or matching to categories of income where appropriate.	For regular budgets, must agree with Statement/Schedule of appropriations. Disclose individual transfers to reserves provided in appropriation.	For expenditure financed from voluntary contributions, cross-reference to Summary Schedule (see optional disclosure for voluntary contributions receivable).
11	To include items not charged to current budget, e.g. writes-off of pledges of prior periods.		
12	To reflect the movement on the provision set up against contributions receivable.		
13	To be disclosed as stipulated in basic texts, or included in calculation of miscellaneous income when determining level of assessed contributions.		
14		Indicate individual transfers, including reserving funds to implement approved programmes in the subsequent biennium.	
15		Provide details of adjustments.	

APPENDIX IIIA (Option A)

Statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances (Statement II)

as at [date]

(Expressed in [currency of account])

References		Heading	Schedule or Note Reference[1]	General Fund (and related funds)		Other Activities					
						1		2		3 etc.	
				[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]		[Financial Period]	
Accounting Standards	Comments and further disclosure[1]			[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]	[Current]	[Prior]
		ASSETS									
48(i)	1	Cash and term deposits									
48(ii)	2	Investments									
48(iii)	3	Accounts receivable									
32	4	Assessed contributions receivable from member States									
33		Voluntary contributions receivable									
		Other contributions receivable									
32-33		Less provision for delays in the collection of contributions									
	5	Inter-fund balances									
	6	Other									
48(iv)	7	Other assets									
48(v),50,51	8	Land and buildings									
49	9	[Note to the accounts concerning non-expendable equipment, etc.]									
		TOTAL ASSETS									
52, 57		**LIABILITIES**									
	10	Contributions or payments received in advance									
53	11	Borrowings payable within one year									
	12	Unliquidated obligations									
	3	Accounts payable									
	13	Inter-fund balances									
	14	Other									
	15	Other funds and special accounts									
	16	Other liabilities									
53	17	Borrowings payable after one year									
		TOTAL LIABILITIES									
54-56	18	**RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES** [For example]									
		Operating reserves									
		Other reserves									
		Balances relating to projects funded by donors									
		Working Capital Funds									
		Capital funds relating to land and buildings									
		Surplus (deficit)									
		TOTAL RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES									
		TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES									

[1] Comments and information on further disclosure in the table following appendix IIIB (Option B).

[2] This column is optional when the references cannot pertain to all columns shown.

APPENDIX IIIB (Option B)

Statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances (Statement II)

as at [date]

(Expressed in [currency of account])

References		Heading	Schedule or Note Reference[2]	General Fund (and related funds)	Other Activities			Eliminations	Total	
Accounting Standards	Comments and further disclosure[1]				1	2	3 etc.		[Financial Period]	
									[Current]	[Prior]
		ASSETS								
48(i)	1	Cash and term deposits								
48(ii)	2	Investments								
48(iii)	3	Accounts receivable								
32	4	Assessed contributions receivable from member States								
33		Voluntary contributions receivable								
		Other contributions receivable								
32,33		Less provision for delays in the collection of contributions								
	5	Inter-fund balances								
	6	Other								
48(iv)	7	Other assets								
48(v),50,51	8	Land and buildings								
49	9	[Note to the accounts concerning non-expendable equipment, etc.]								
		TOTAL ASSETS								
		LIABILITIES								
52, 53	10	Payments or contributions received in advance								
53	11	Borrowings payable within one year								
	12	Unliquidated obligations								
	3	Accounts payable								
	13	Inter-fund balances								
	14	Other								
	15	Other funds and special accounts								
	16	Other liabilities								
53	17	Borrowings payable after one year								
		TOTAL LIABILITIES								
		RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES								
54-56	18	[For example]								
		Operating reserves								
		Other reserves								
		Balances relating to projects funded by donors								
		Working Capital Funds								
		Capital funds relating to land and buildings								
		Surplus (deficit)								
		TOTAL RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES								
		TOTAL LIABILITIES, RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES								

[1] Comments and information on further disclosure in the table following appendix IIIB (Option B).

[2] This column is optional when the references cannot pertain to all columns shown.

Statement of assets, liabilities, and reserves and fund balances (Statement II)

Comments and further disclosure

Number	Comments	Disclosure by schedule or note or on the financial statements	
		Obligatory	Optional
General	In accordance with paragraph 5(iii) of the Accounting Standards, all items which are material enough to affect evaluations or decisions should be disclosed in footnotes.		
1		Disclose material amounts held in non-convertible currencies.	Breakdown by cash, bank - current/deposit, location, etc. Breakdown by currency held.
2		Disclose market value if different from carrying amount.	
3	Other accounts receivable or accounts payable may be shown separately or grouped under the major heading "other" as prescribed by the basic texts or resolutions or depending on materiality.		
4		For the general fund, for assessed contributions receivable from member States, provide detailed listing by member State, identifying arrears including those payable in instalments.	
5	Balances due from other funds managed by the organization.		
6			Detailed schedule or note.
7	Includes inventories (other than non-expendable equipment etc.) and deferred charges.	Disclose on statement or by schedule or note depending on materiality.	
8		Disclose value of such property and the method of valuation (cost, valuation or nominal). Disclose costs incurred during construction, etc. (as per paragraph 50 of the Accounting Standards). Disclose amounts and timing of commitments for acquisition of land or buildings.	
9		Disclose inventory value of non-expendable equipment, furniture and motor vehicles and the method of valuation (cost or valuation).	
10			Detailed schedule or note, by member State.
11		Disclose secured/unsecured borrowings with a summary of interest rates and repayment terms.	Disclose authority.
12	To be defined in statement of significant accounting policies (Note 2).		Specify according to period and type.
13	Balances due to other funds managed by the organization.		
14			Detailed schedule or note.
15		Give summary of movements on major funds and special accounts.	
16		Disclose on statement or by schedule or note depending on materiality.	
17		Disclose secured/unsecured borrowings with a summary of interest rates and repayment terms.	
18		Disclose: The nature of each capital fund and reserve account, the authority for establishing it, its authorized level, its sources of funding and the movements in its constituent funds. The value of any accumulated surplus or deficit, including, for organizations with assessed budgets, identifying the amounts actually available for distribution.	

APPENDIX IV

Statement of cash flow (Statement III)

[Indirect method]
for the period ending [date]
(Expressed in [currency of account])

	[Financial Period]	
	[Current]	[Prior]
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Net excess (shortfall) of income over expenditure (Statement I) (Increase) decrease in contributions receivable (Increase) decrease in other accounts receivable (Increase) decrease in other assets Increase (decrease) in contributions or payments received in advance Increase (decrease) in unliquidated obligations Increase (decrease) in accounts payable Increase (decrease) in other liabilities Less: Interest income Plus: Interest expense Currency exchange adjustments [optional, offset by similar category below]		
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES: (Increase) decrease in investments (Increase) decrease in inter-fund balances receivable Increase (decrease) in inter-fund balances payable Increase (decrease) in balances on funds and special accounts Increase (decrease) in borrowings Plus: Interest income Less: Interest expense Currency exchange adjustments [optional, offset to similar category above]		
NET CASH FROM INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
CASH FLOWS FROM OTHER SOURCES: (Increase) decrease in land and buildings Savings on or cancellation of prior periods' obligations Transfers (to) reserves Transfers from reserves Transfers (to)/from other funds Credits to member States Other adjustments to reserves and fund balances		
NET CASH FROM OTHER SOURCES		
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS		
CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD		
CASH AND TERM DEPOSITS, END OF PERIOD		

APPENDIX V

Statement/schedule of appropriations (Statement IV or Schedule 1.1)

for the period ending [date]
(Expressed in [currency of account])

Description of appropriation section or programme[1]	Appropriations				Expenditure			Balance[5]
	Original	Supplementary/ Other adjustments[2]	Transfers[3]	Revised	Disbursements	Unliquidated obligations[4]	Total[4]	

[1] To be presented in same detail as approved budgets.

[2] For use according to the requirements of the organization. "Other adjustments" could include such items as other credits, tax equalization transfers, etc.

[3] Provide explanatory notes.

[4] For use according to the requirements of the organization. "Unliquidated obligations" should include accounts payable amounts which have been expensed.

[5] For use according to the requirements of the organization.